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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Down, Jobs Up for Every Metro Area Compared to Last April

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	April 2021*	April 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.8%	12.9%	-8.1
Carbondale-Marion	5.7%	17.5%	-11.8
Champaign-Urbana	4.8%	11.0%	-6.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	7.9%	16.4%	-8.5
Danville	6.5%	17.0%	-10.5
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	15.9%	-10.3
Decatur	7.9%	15.4%	-7.5
Elgin	6.3%	16.8%	-10.5
Kankakee	6.9%	16.2%	-9.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.5%	15.3%	-9.8
Peoria	6.4%	17.1%	-10.7
Rockford	9.7%	22.5%	-12.8
Springfield	5.9%	14.9%	-9.0
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.3%	15.1%	-9.8
Illinois Statewide	7.1%	16.3%	-9.2
* Preliminary ** Revised			

SPRINGFIELD – The number of nonfarm jobs increased over-the-year in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas in April according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). The unemployment rate decreased over-the-year in all metro areas. The official, BLS approved sub-state unemployment rate and nonfarm jobs series begins in 1990.

“Decreased unemployment in all 102 counties compared to last spring is a critical component of Illinois’ pandemic recovery, and the administration will continue to deploy every available resource to ensure that this economic rebound is as widespread as possible,” said Deputy Governor Dan Hynes. “That said, COVID-19 is still with us, and the Department remains focused on supporting workers not yet able to rejoin the labor market through benefits as well as job-matching resources.”

The number of nonfarm jobs increased in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas. The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Carbondale-Marion MSA

(+9.8%, +5,000), the Springfield MSA (+9.0%, +8,400) and the Lake County-Kenosha County, IL-WI Metropolitan Division (+8.7%, +31,700). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division rose by +7.3%, +237,900.

Over-the-year, the unemployment rate decreased in all 14 metropolitan areas; the metro areas with the largest unemployment rate decreases were the Rockford MSA (-12.8 points to 9.7%), the Carbondale-Marion MSA (-11.8 points to 5.7%) and the Peoria MSA (-10.7 points to 6.4%). The Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division unemployment rate fell -8.5 points to 7.9%. The unemployment rate also decreased over-the-year in all 102 counties.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – April 2021

Metropolitan Area	April 2021*	April 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	87,700	82,800	4,900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,100	51,100	5,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	117,600	108,600	9,000
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,509,500	3,271,600	237,900
Danville MSA	26,500	24,600	1,900
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	175,000	161,400	13,600
Decatur MSA	47,400	44,900	2,500
Elgin Metro Division	240,800	222,800	18,000
Kankakee MSA	42,200	40,600	1,600
Lake County-Kenosha County Metro Division	396,400	364,700	31,700
Peoria MSA	159,500	149,100	10,400
Rockford MSA	134,600	127,000	7,600
Springfield MSA	102,100	93,700	8,400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	229,900	212,600	17,300
Illinois Statewide	5,720,900	5,310,300	410,600
*Preliminary **Revised			

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Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

Labor Market Area	Apr 2021	Apr 2020	Over the Year Change
Carbondale-Marion MSA	5.7 %	17.5 %	-11.8
Jackson County	5.7 %	14.8 %	-9.1
Williamson County	5.7 %	19.7 %	-14.0
Surrounding Counties			
Alexander County	7.8 %	16.1 %	-8.3
Franklin County	6.8 %	24.6 %	-17.8
Johnson County	5.9 %	17.2 %	-11.3
Massac County	5.9 %	22.5 %	-16.6
Perry County	6.0 %	22.4 %	-16.4
Pulaski County	9.2 %	20.4 %	-11.2
Randolph County	4.3 %	16.5 %	-12.2
Union County	5.7 %	14.4 %	-8.7
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	6.3 %	17.1 %	-10.8
Hamilton County	4.6 %	17.9 %	-13.3
Hardin County	7.0 %	14.8 %	-7.8
Pope County	4.9 %	15.2 %	-10.3
Saline County	6.8 %	18.6 %	-11.8
White County	5.3 %	19.1 %	-13.8
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	4.8 %	22.0 %	-17.2
Lawrence County	6.1 %	25.1 %	-19.0
Richland County	4.4 %	15.4 %	-11.0
Wabash County	4.6 %	26.5 %	-21.9
Wayne County	5.2 %	20.3 %	-15.1
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	4.9 %	16.3 %	-11.4
LWIA 24	5.5 %	15.7 %	-10.2
LWIA 25	6.0 %	20.8 %	-14.8
LWIA 26	5.8 %	19.3 %	-13.5
Southern EDR	5.9 %	20.2 %	-14.3

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale– Marion Area

The April 2021 unemployment rate was 5.7 percent. This was a decrease of -11.8 percentage points from April 2020 of 17.5 percent. Total nonfarm employment in April 2021 increased (+5,000) compared to last April.

Employment increased in Government (+200).

Surrounding Counties

Total nonfarm employment increased by +2,600 compared to April 2020.

Employers increased payrolls in Leisure and Hospitality (+1,100), Manufacturing (+500), Government (+325), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+250), Educational and Health Services (+175), Other Services (+125), Construction (+100), Professional and Business Services (+75), and Financial Activities (+25).

April payrolls declined in Natural Resources and Mining (-100) while Information showed no change.

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm employment increased by +950 compared to April 2020.

Employment gains were posted in Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+275), Leisure and Hospitality (+250), Government (+125), Natural Resources and Mining (+125), Other Services (+75), Manufacturing (+75), and Construction (+25).

No change in employment was reported in Educational and Health Services, Professional and Business Services, Financial Activities, and Information.

Olney – Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm employment increased by +1,350 compared to April 2020.

Employment gains were posted in Manufacturing (+500), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+325), Leisure and Hospitality (+325), Other Services (+75), Government (+75), Educational and Health Services (+75), Information (+25), and Professional and Business Services (+25).

Payrolls declined in Natural Resources and Mining (-50), and Financial Activities (-25).

No change was reported in Construction.

Note: Monthly 2020 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2021, as required by the U.S. BLS. Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.